

TIPS TO HELP FIGHT CHILD CARE FRAUD!



As a DSS child care program participant:

- Report all changes within 10 days of the date of change.
- Work with your local FSD office to ensure that all child care verification requirements are met.
- Provide complete and accurate information to your FSD worker.
- Sign your child in/out daily on the child care provider's attendance record.
- Never sign blank child care attendance forms.

As a DSS child care provider:

- Maintain records of all child care attendance sheets for 5 years after the child leaves care.
- Accurately complete all child care attendance sheets and child care invoices.
- Communicate any changes that impact compliance to your Child Care Provider Relations Unit (CCPRU) immediately.

**You can help prevent
Child Care Fraud!**

CHILD CARE FRAUD PREVENTION IS A COMMUNITY EFFORT

To report suspected Child Care Fraud, contact:

Your local Family Support Division
(FSD) office

or

Department of Social Services
Division of Legal Services
Welfare Investigation Unit
PO BOX 1527
Jefferson City, MO 65109
Email: DLS.ReportFraud@dss.mo.gov
Phone: (573) 751-2711 Or
1-877-770-8055 Toll Free



Missouri Department of Social Services
Children's Division
P.O. Box 88
Jefferson City, MO 65103-0088
www.dss.mo.gov/cd/
TDD: 800-735-2966
VOICE: 800-735-2466

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Important Information

About Missouri Child Care Fraud





MISSOURI CHILD CARE FRAUD PREVENTION

The goal of the Department of Social Services is to promote public awareness of child care fraud prevention. The Department of Social Services understands the need to ensure program integrity and protect tax dollars while ensuring access to child care services for eligible families. It is important to share with the public that persons receiving child care benefits or providing child care services may be subject to case reviews and/or audits, welfare investigations, or prosecution for child care fraud.

WHAT IS FRAUD?

Fraud is providing misrepresentation of information that you know is not true so you can gain benefits or payments you are not eligible to receive. Fraud is a punishable crime.

As a DSS child care program participant you are committing fraud if you:

- Fail or refuse to provide accurate and complete eligibility information.
- Share inaccurate or false documents to receive benefits.
- Fail to report changes as required.
- Hide information about eligibility.
- Falsify sign-in/out sheets for child care providers, to include signing for services not provided.
- Falsify that your child(ren) receive care from a provider when services are not provided and then split the subsidy payment with the provider.

As a DSS child care provider you are committing fraud if you:

- Change or provide falsifying information and or documentation during the child care provider application process.
- Hide or share inaccurate information about actual services provided.
- Falsify child care attendance records.
- Falsify child care invoices.
- Falsify that child care services are being provided and then split the subsidy payment with the participant(s).
- Lack completeness when providing contract or registration agreement information.
- Do not report changes as required by your contract or registration agreement.
- Falsify records where you as the parent and provider receive state subsidy for providing child care services to your own children.



Restitution is defined as the repayment of all benefits or money received fraudulently. This debt can be repaid through a payment plan or through recoupment.

CRIMINAL PENALTIES

According to Section 570.030 of the Revised Statutes of Missouri stealing of public assistance benefits valued at \$500 or more is punishable by:

- Conviction of a class C felony
- Imprisonment for up to 7 years
- Fine up to \$5,000
- Restitution

This crime is considered a Class A misdemeanor if the value of the benefit is less than \$500.00.

WHY FIGHT CHILD CARE FRAUD?



The primary purpose of the Child Care Assistance Program is to enable families to obtain and retain employment or the skills necessary to obtain employment, with the ultimate goal being to break the cycle of poverty. Child care is considered an on-going benefit to the family's efforts towards self-sufficiency.

Preventing fraud preserves and protects the integrity of Missouri's Child Care Assistance Program so that tax dollars are available for families in need.

Integrity is doing the right thing, even if nobody is watching."

Unknown Author